

MEMORANDUM

TO: Claire Powell, City Manager

FROM: David Salmon, P.E., City Engineer

VIA: Jim Proce, Assistant City Manager

DATE: October 9, 2023

SUBJECT: **Approval of a Memorandum of Understanding Between the Dallas-Fort Worth Regional Intelligent Transportation System Partners Related to the Sharing of Traffic Data and Video Captured by the City's Advanced Transportation Management System; and Authorization for the City Manager, or Her Designee, to Execute the Agreement.**

BACKGROUND

The Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act or "FAST Act" requires developing intelligent transportation systems (ITS) to conform with the National ITS Architecture and Standards. The National ITS Architecture is being used in the Dallas-Fort Worth area as a model as the region defines a Regional ITS Architecture. The Regional ITS Architecture underway provides a framework for ITS communication systems integration and interagency information exchange. Following the Regional ITS Architecture will lower design costs, reduce development time, guide future expansion, enhance overall system performance and provide consistency across the region.

As a result, the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (Mobility 2045 Update) requires that all public sector traffic operations systems be integrated to share data and video. Signing the memorandum of understanding between Dallas-Fort Worth Regional Intelligent Transportation System Partners concerning guiding principles for multi-agency communication, data, and video sharing (MOU) confirms an agency's political and organizational support of this initiative, in collaboration with staff support of the sharing concept. The MOU allows for institutionalization of the MOU objectives and solidifies the formal commitment when elected officials or staff change, eliminating the need to revisit and reaffirm this intention when new officials take office or agency personnel change.

The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is responsible for the development and maintenance of the North Central Texas regional Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Architecture. Mobility 2045, the Metropolitan Transportation Plan for North Central Texas, adopted by the Regional Transportation Council requires all traffic operation systems between public sector agencies to be integrated and to share data and video. This has been an ongoing effort since 2016. The City of Lewisville's intelligent transportation system was deployed earlier this year, thus providing the ability to provide data and video.

The following agencies and Cities have already executed the agreement.

- North Central Texas Council of Governments
- City of Grapevine
- City of Grand Prairie
- City of Plano
- City of McKinney
- City of Arlington
- City of Garland
- City of Burleson
- City of Wylie
- City of Allen
- City of Richardson
- City of Keller
- City of Fort Worth

ANALYSIS

The subject MOU outlines roles and responsibilities of the City of Lewisville, a potential partner agency, with respect to the development of a multi-agency communication network for traffic data and video sharing. Signing the MOU confirms the partner's interest and intent to share communication media, data, and video with other regional partners. Although signing this MOU does not directly commit the City to participate financially outside of its own network, it's likely that the City would be asked to enter into future agreements committing to shared costs for maintaining and operating the proposed regional network. The City can cancel participation in the regional network by providing written notice to the regional network partners at least 180 days in advance. Becoming a partner agency in the Dallas-Fort Worth Regional Intelligent Transportation System Partners supports the Big Move, "Connected City" and Strategic Move "Data Driven City" in the Lewisville 2025 Plan

There are multiple benefits associated with execution of the MOU, including the following.

1. Allows the signatory agencies to receive 3 points for Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Policy Bundles to determine eligibility for TRANSPORTATION DEVELOPMENT CREDITs (TDC), beginning with the new MOU Bundles Program in 2023. NCTCOG will provide information about the MTP Bundles, including the schedule and other information.
2. Allows agencies to determine which data and video is shared.
3. Provides no obligation to do more than participate in planning efforts for the regional network. Agencies can steer the technical and conceptual direction, cost implications and speed of development of the sharing initiative.
4. Allows various agencies to demonstrate commitment to share with each other without the need for numerous agreements between agencies.

5. Allows Transportation Management Center and Traffic Management Center staff to share and receive data.
6. Representation on the North Central Texas Regional Communications Network Committee.
7. Having eventual access to adjacent City's traffic data will be useful for the City of Lewisville in establishing corridor progression and incident response.

Furthermore, if an agency has not executed the MOU, NCTCOG may determine that it is not in the best interest of the region to provide ITS project funding when available. Execution of the MOU allows an agency to avoid this potential restriction.

CITY STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION

That the City Council approve the memorandum of understanding and authorize the City Manager, or her designee, to execute the memorandum as set forth in the caption above.